

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for the production of a polyarylene sulfide based resin comprising ~~a step of~~ washing a said polyarylene sulfide based resin in a softened or molten state with a washing liquid comprising water and at least one mixed solvent of an aprotic organic solvent, and water, wherein the polyarylene sulfide based resin partially dissolved in the washing liquid is recovered and reused wherein polyarylene sulfide based resin dissolved in the washing liquid is recovered by precipitating and separating it from said washing liquid by at least one technique selected from the group consisting of cooling the washing liquid after washing or adding water to the washing liquid after washing.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The process ~~for the production of polyarylene sulfide based resin as described in claim 2, which further comprises the steps of~~ according to Claim 1, further comprising adding another polyarylene sulfide based resin; and washing with a mixed solvent of an aprotic organic solvent and water in a softened or molten state.

4. (Currently Amended) The process ~~for the production of polyarylene sulfide based resin as described in claim 2, which further comprises the steps of~~ according to Claim 1, further comprising crushing the recovered polyarylene sulfide based resin; drying ~~them~~ it; and reusing it in the form of powder.

5. (New) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said polyarylene sulfide based resin is a polyphenylene sulfide resin.

6. (New) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the polyarylene sulfide based resin is a homopolymer or a copolymer comprising 70 mole % or more of a para-arylene sulfide repeat unit.

7. (New) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said washing liquid comprises at least one aprotic organic solvent selected from the group consisting of N,N-dimethylformamide, N,N-diethylformamide, N,N-dimethylacetamide, N,N-diethylacetamide, N,N-dipropylacetamide and N,N-dimethylbenzoamide, caprolactam, N-alkylcaprolactams such as N-methylcaprolactam, N-ethylcaprolactam, N-isopropylcaprolactam, N-isobutylcaprolactam, N-n-propylcaprolactam, N-n-butylcaprolactam and N-cyclohexylcaprolactam, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone (NMP), N-ethyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-isopropyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-isobutyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-n-propyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-n-butyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-cyclohexyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-methyl-3-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-ethyl-3-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-methyl-3,4,5-trimethyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-methyl-2-piperidone, N-ethyl-2-piperidone, N-isopropyl-2-piperidone, N-methyl-6-methyl-2-piperidone and N-methyl-3-ethyl-2-piperidone, tetramethylurea, N,N'-dimethylethyleneurea and N,N'-dimethylpropyleneurea, dimethyl sulfoxide, diethyl sulfoxide, diphenylsulfolane, 1-methyl-1-oxosulfolane, 1-ethyl-1-oxosulfolane and 1-phenyl-1-oxosulfolane, 1-methyl-1-oxophosphorane, 1-n-propyl-1-oxophosphorane and 1-phenyl-1-oxophosphorane, and mixtures thereof.

8. (New) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said washing liquid comprises N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone.

9. (New) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said washing liquid has a mixing ratio of aprotic organic solvent to water of 55/45 to 95/5.

10. (New) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said washing liquid has a mixing ratio of aprotic organic solvent to water of 65/35 to 90/10.
11. (New) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the amount of polyarylene sulfide based resin washed is 10 to 400 g per liter of the aprotic organic solvent.
12. (New) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein washing is accomplished at a washing temperature of 220 to 300 °C.
13. (New) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the polyarylene sulfide based resin dissolved in the washing liquid is recovered by precipitating and separating it from said washing liquid by cooling the washing liquid after washing to a cooling temperature of 150°C or lower.
14. (New) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the polyarylene sulfide based resin dissolved in the washing liquid is recovered by precipitating and separating it from said washing liquid by adding water to the washing liquid after washing.
15. (New) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the amount of polyarylene sulfide based resin washed is 50 to 300 g per liter of the aprotic organic solvent.
16. (New) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the amount of polyarylene sulfide based resin washed is 100 to 250 g per liter of the aprotic organic solvent.
17. (New) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said washing liquid comprises N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, said washing liquid has a mixing ratio of aprotic organic solvent to

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water of 55/45 to 95/5, and the amount of polyarylene sulfide based resin washed is 10 to 400 g per liter of the aprotic organic solvent.